

REMARKS

For the convenience of the U.S. reader, English texts, corresponding to various cited German patent documents, have been identified. See also the IDS.

In order to improve readability, some of the translated German claims have been cancelled, and claims in customary US format have replaced them. For example, claim 30 replaces original claim 10, which recited the steps using past tense verbs. Claim 30 is directed to the subject-matters of FIGS. 7A/7B and 10. As shown at left in FIG. 7B, the counter is started with a value, e.g. 9800 microseconds, as described at specification page 11, lines 5-18. When this counter has counted down to zero (at time TN+1), the interrupt routine shown in FIG. 10 is executed. Thus, in step S302, the value t_AR is loaded into counter CNT_HL and the counter is restarted. In order to avoid the need for two separate counters, the counter is first used to count down from value t_B, followed by the interrupt, then used to count down from value t_B', as shown in FIG. 7B and described on page 11.

Apparatus claims 43-45 replace original apparatus claims 22-24.

Method claim 46 replaces original method claim 25.

Apparatus claims 47-51 replace original claims 26-29.

If the examiner notes any other informalities which would prevent examination on the merits, a call to the undersigned is invited.

Respectfully submitted,

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